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Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 AS-01 ISO-00 CU-04 SS-15 NSC-05 CIAE-00
DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02
/062 W
----------054494 051105Z /10
R 050850Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY MANILA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1927

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 MANILA 10292

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: RP
SUBJ: REMARKS BY CHARGE AT PHILIPPINE-AMERICAN FRIENDSHIP
GALA, JULY 4

1. THERE FOLLOWS FULL TEXT OF AFTER DINNER REMARKS BY CHARGE AT SUBJECT EVENT ATTENDED BY PRESIDENT AND MRS. MARCOS AND FOUR HUNDRED PLUS PHILIPPINE AND AMERICAN GUESTS. MARCOS RESPONDED IN KIND AT GREATER LENGTH; TEXT WILL BE REPORTED WHEN AVAILABLE.

QUOTE PRESIDENT AND MRS. MARCOS, WHOM WE HONOR AND WHO HONOR US BY THEIR PRESENCE:

HONORABLE JUSTICES OF THE SUPREME COURT; SECRETARY INGLES; FORMER VICE PRESIDENT LOPEZ, UNDERSECRETARIES; COMMISSIONERS; GOVERNORS; GENERALS AND ADMIRAL OF THE ARMED FORCES; AND THEIR LADIES, WHO ADD TO THE LUSTER OF THIS STAR-SPANGLED EVENING.

REPRESENTATIVES OF BUSINESS, FINANCE, INDUSTRY, EDUCATION AND THE ARTS; MOST ESPECIALLY, DEAN KASILAG, IMPRESARIO EXTRA-ORDINARE; AND ALICE REYES AND MEMBERS OF THE CULTURAL CENTER OF THE PHILIPPINE DANCE TROUPE, WHO TOMORROW LEAVE ON TOUR TO THE UNITED STATES;

MEMBERS OF THE ALVIN AILEY AMERICAN DANCE THEATER, MR. ALVIN AILEY HIMSELF, HIS STAFF AND DANCERS, WHOSE SPLENDID PERFORMANCE
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THIS EVENING HAS

-- THRILLED US,
-- ELEVATED US,
-- JOINED US,

IN COMMON APPRECIATION OF THEIR UNCOMMON ARTISTRY,

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MEMBERS OF THE AMERICAN COMMUNITY IN THE PHILIPPINES:
-- AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
-- AMERICAN ASSOCIATION,
-- AMERICAN EMBASSY,
-- AMERICAN MILITARY
WHO HAVE JOINED TOGETHER TO HOST THIS EVENING FOR OUR HOSTS IN THIS COUNTRY, THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF THE PHILIPPINES;

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN.

ACCORDING TO AN ARTICLE IN YESTERDAY'S MANILA PRESS, "JULY 4 HAS BEEN SET ASIDE AS FIL-AMERICAN FREINDSHIP DAY EVER SINCE... 1962 IN ORDER TO RENEW AULD ACQUAINTANCE AND REFLECT ON RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES." ACCORDINGLY, WHILE WE ARE RENEWING OLD ACQUAINTANCE TONIGHT -- PERSONALLY, CULTURALLY AND SYMBOLICALLY -- IT SEEMS APPROPRIATE THAT WE ALSO SHOULD REFLECT ON RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES.

THOSE OF YOU WITH BROADER RESPONSIBILITIES WILL PLEASE BEAR WITH ME; SINCE PHILIPPINE-AMERICAN RELATIONS ARE PRACTICALLY THE TOTALITY OF OUR EXISTENCE -- DAY IN AND DAY OUT, MORNING, NOON AND NIGHT.

WE AWAKE IN THE MORNING TO SCAN THE PRESS AND LEARN OF OUR SHORTCOMINGS AND MISFORTUNES.

DURING THE DAY, WE ENDEAVOR TO INTERPRET THE PHILIPPINES
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TO AMERICANS, VIP VISITORS AND WASHINGTON BUREAUCRATS, AND TO EXPLAIN OUR COUNTRY TO YOU. WE WORK TOWARD THE COMPASSIONATE CONSULATE, AND WORK WITH COLLEAGUES IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS. EVEN AT NIGHT, WE GO TO SLEEP COUNTING DUTY CERTIFICATES, AND DREAM OF WRESTLING WITH DOGS, AND OF THE MANY MEANINGS OF HUMAN RIGHTS, AND OF HOW TO EXPLAIN A CERTAIN MILLION DOLLAR CHECK. IT'S A FULL TIME OCCUPATION, PHILIPPINE-AMERICAN RELATIONS.

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DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02
/062 W
----------054619 051103Z /16
R 050850Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY MANILA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1928

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WE LIKE THE WORK -- FOR YOU FILIPINOS ARE A BEAUTIFUL, HOSPITABLE AND WARM PEOPLE, SO FASCINATINGLY LIKE AND YET UNLIKE OURSELVES. WE AMERICANS AND FILIPINOS, IT SEEMS TO ME, DON'T TAKE EACH OTHER EASILY FOR GRANTED. WE LOVE AND OFFEND EACH OTHER, NEGLECT AND OVERLOAD, WE COMPLIMENT AND CRITICIZE, COMPLAIN AND ADMIRE. IT IS A SYMBIOTIC ASSOCIATION THAT TAKES A LOT OF INTELLIGENT, PATIENT AND IMAGINATIVE MUTUAL EFFORT TO NOURISH AND PROTECT WHAT IS FUNDAMENTAL, DURABLE AND GOOD IN THAT RELATION-SHIP, WHILE WE SEEK TO CAST OFF ANY ARCHAIC AND CORROSIVE ASPECTS THAT MAY HAVE ACCUMULATED OVER OUR LONG HISTORY TOGETHER.

WE ALSO LIKE THE WORK -- BECAUSE IN IT LIES THE PROSPECT FOR A SUBSTANTIALLY FAVORABLE EVOLUTION IN PHILIPPINE-AMERICAN RELATIONS. PRESIDENT CARTER IN HIS JULY 4 STATEMENT EXPRESSED OPTIMISM ABOUT THE FUTURE WORLDWIDE. SECRETARY OF STATE VANCE IN THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION'S FIRST MAJOR SPEECH ON AMERICA AND EAST ASIA SAID ON JUNE 29 THAT THE UNITED STATES "SEEKS NORMAL AND FRIENDLY RELATIONS WITH THE COUNTRIES IN THE AREA ON THE BASIS OF RECIPROCITY AND MUTUAL RESPECT." ON THAT BASIS, I SUBMIT, WE BOTH HAVE CAUSE FOR OPTIMISM AND PARTICULARLY SO ABOUT PHILIPPINE-AMERICAN RELATIONS.

TRUE, PHILIPPINE-AMERICAN RELATIONS ARE IN A STATE OF TRANSITION. FOR BOTH SOCIETIES ARE DYNAMIC, DEVELOPING AND EVOLV-ING. AS IS MUCH OF THE WORLD IN WHICH WE LIVE. AND IT IS ONLY UNCLASSIFIED

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NATURAL THAT OUR RELATIONS ALSO BE DEVELOPING AND EVOLVING. IT WOULD BE WORRISOME IF THEY WERE NOT. INEVITABLY, THE PROCESS OF ACCOMMODATION AND ADJUSTMENT ON BOTH SIDES TO NEW SITUATIONS IS BOUND TO BE SOMEWHAT ROCKY IN PLACES BUT, I BELIEVE, MANAGEABLE AND TEMPORARY, AND NOT TO BE MISTAKEN FOR THE PERMANENT CONDITION. ALREADY VOICES HAVE LOST SOME OF LAST YEAR'S STRIDENCY, WITH A FEW NOTABLE EXCEPTIONS AND OUR ATTENTION BY MUTUAL AGREEMENT SEEMS TO BE SHIFTING MORE TO THE RESOLUTION OF SPECIFIC PROBLEMS OF COMMON INTEREST THAT NEED OUR ATTENTION.

IMPLICIT IN THE MEANING OF TRANSITION IS THAT PHILIPPINE-AMERICAN RELATIONS ARE GOING SOMEWHERE. AND, THERE ARE SIGNS THAT THE DIRECTION IS FAVORABLE AND THE PROSPECT IS FOR A MORE BALANCED, EQUITABLE, BENEFICIAL AND DURABLE RELATIONSHIP.

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THIS IS, OF COURSE, NOT TO SAY THAT THERE ARE NOT A NUMBER OF ISSUES TO BE ADDRESSED IN PHILIPPINE-AMERICAN RELATIONS.

IT IS TO SAY, HOWEVER:

-- THAT THERE ARE NO ISSUES BETWEEN US THAT CANNOT BE MANAGED SATISFACTORILY BY REASONABLY PEOPLE ON BOTH SIDES, AND

-- THAT THE CORRECTION AND ADJUSTMENT OF THOSE ISSUES IS THE STUFF OF DIPLOMACY AND NOT OF ACRIMONY.

THIS MORNING AT THE AMERICAN CHANCERY, IN KEEPING WITH THE SUGGESTION OF THE FIRST LADY, AND TO COMMEMORATE THIS JULY 4TH, WE PLANTED 201 IPIL-IPIL AND NARRA TREES. IPIL-IPIL TREES GROW FAST AND TALL. NARRA TREES ARE STRONG AND DURABLE. BOTH ARE EXTRAORDINARILY BENEFICIAL. I WOULD LIKE TO THINK OF THESE TREES AS SYMBOLIC OF THE PHILIPPINE-AMERICAN RELATIONSHIP THAT IT IS FAIR TO SAY BOTH GOVERNMENTS SEEM PREPARED TO WORK TOWARD WITH RENEWED VIGOR:

-- A RELATIONSHIP THAT WILL STAND TALL IN OUR TIME, AND

-- A RELATIONSHIP THAT WILL REMAIN STRONG, AND MUTUALLY

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BENEFICIAL AND DURABLE FOR A LONG TIME TO COME.

MAY I NOW ASK YOU TO RISE AND JOIN:

-- IN A TOAST TO PHILIPPINE-AMERICAN RELATIONS, MAY THEY GROW AND PROSPER IN MUTUAL RESPECT, AND

-- IN A TOAST TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES, AND MRS. FERDINAND E. MARCOS, WITH OUR RESPECT. UNQUOTE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Executive Order: N/A
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